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POETRY.
SHIP OF THE LINE PENNSYLVANIA

BY WILLIAM F. TAPPAN.

"Leap forth to the roaring sea,
O ship of brave name!
And thou upon thy native breeze
The stars and stripes of fame!
And bear thy thundering o'er the deep
Where rousing armies rise—
Thou hast a nation's genius to keep—
Her honor and her pride—
O holy is the covenant made
With thee and us to-day—
None from the compact shrinks afraid,
No traitor utters nay—
We pledge our lives and love, and thou
Thy glorious stripes of red and blue
Alone with men who cannot bow
To kings, or has the yoke!"

Speed lightning o'er the Carib sea,
Which deeds of bell deform;
And look! her hands are spread to thee,
Where Africa's robbers swarm.
Go! lie upon the Agave's breast,
Where sparkling curule slaves—
And seek the lawless Salote's nest,
And spoil his cruel wives.
And keep, where go the merchant ships,
Stern watch on their highway.
And promptly through the iron lips
When urged our tribute pay.
Yes, show thy bristling teeth of power
Wherever tyrants bind
In pride of their own little hour—
A freemen's noble mind.

Spread out those noble wings of thine!
While crime doth govern men,
To fit each bulwark of the line,
Should leave the shores of Penn.
Forbid within thy giant strength
Are germs of welcome Peace.
And such as thou shalt cause at length
Man's feverish strife to cease.
From every vale of every crag,
Word of thy beauty's past,
And joy we that our country's flag
Streams from thy towering mast—
Assured that in thy prowess, thou
For ever wilt be true.
Whose sons can die, but know not how
To strike that pension due!
Philadelphia, July 19, 1837.

POLITICAL.

THE TIMES AND THE CURRENCY.

Messrs Editors:—In these dull times one has time to read a little, grumble a little, think a good deal, and now I am going to write a little, send it to you, and you may do as you please with it. I have been thinking thus: Had the deposits remained with the United States Bank, would there have been such an increase in the revenue from the Land Office? From what I read, I think there could not. Again: Would the English have been so ready with their money and goods in assisting the over-trading, but for this boasted surplus revenue giving such an appearance of our great prosperity and ability to pay? I think not. Again: Had not the gold humbug been in existence, would the Bank of England have taken the steps she did to draw the gold into her coffers?—I think not. But suppose this gold scheme had been carried out—suppose the President had had influence in each State to prevent the circulation of paper under twenty dollars, so that gold might remain in circulation (for gold will not keep company with paper of the same nominal value)—what would be the effect? The amount of money in circulation would be reduced, not only in the proportion the specie might have to the paper driven out, but the banks could only discount with great care, for as twenty dollar notes must be changed for common purposes, they might almost as well discount with gold at once, as half their paper would most likely return to be changed in a day or two, and give double trouble. "That's just what we want," says a Jackson man. Well, if it should be reduced to one fifth the amount, how quick must that little change hands, if the same amount of business is to be done at the same time and at the same price as formerly? Now, as the same number of busy hands remain as before, all anxious to produce something to sell, the sellers would soon be running after the buyers, instead of the buyers running after the sellers as we have been accustomed to see, and then a general reduction in the price of things. Now, I think I hear a fellow mechanic say, "It will be the same thing to me if I work for one dollar per day instead of one and a half, if every thing is reduced in proportion." Agreed, if you can get the work and the dollar. But how does it effect the man of gold and the office-holder? Is not one of these dollars worth one and a half to them by the same rule? Besides, what becomes of your doctrine, that if a man of small capital, by the assistance of banks, should be able to compete with a rich man in trade, he thereby becomes a monopolist. But it is not so; he competes with the man of real wealth for the produce of your labor, and prevents him from becoming a monopolist (if you please.) And what would it benefit you to bring down every man of borrowed capital? Swell your own ranks and leave the rich in their glory—"the rich richer and the poor poorer"—and a string of changes as little calculated upon as desirable in this country. This gold scheme must be laid by until gold comes into the country naturally. Then the commercial system will not be deranged by schemes to bring it in and schemes to get it out again. Major Downing said, "there is no harm in a man's making a mistake, if he don't stick to it after he finds it out." But what a nobleness of soul does it require in a party politician; and how ignoble to stick to a thing after he does find it out. Many people think it strange that the supporters of the experiment do not propose something as a remedy themselves, after condemning every thing proposed by the opposition. But the thing is simple enough. What on earth can they propose that will not admit the experiment to be a failure? Again: they express surprise that the Globe, etc. should be so violent

"about this time." Now, I think that the currency takers behave pretty well under such trying circumstances. No pleasant thing to see their golden promises all burst up, and the predictions of the Whigs come to pass. Between you and me, I am rather sorry for the party. Now there is that National Bank question; that is an unpleasant thing for them, for after all they have said and done they know as well as you and I do, that something of the kind must be had, and that the safest way to relieve the country is to retrace our steps to the past as quick as possible. Enough, enough, you will say. Well, I may be wrong, like many other great men of the day, but these are some of the notions of

A MECHANIC.

The Globe, a paper as much distinguished for assurance, as for a manly disregard of truth and principle, says—
"Banks cannot be dispensed with, except at the sacrifice of all justice in regard to the contracts made under a mixed currency, nor without a violation of the faith pledged in the legislation (where honestly obtained) by which they are established. The subject must be left to gradual reform, to which the intelligence of the people of the respective States is fully adequate."

"The chimerical scheme of an exclusive metallic currency has never been entertained by the friends of the past or the present administration, nor has there been the slightest attempt to interfere with the credit system. A currency exclusively metallic has never been proposed nor advanced, either by President Jackson, Mr Van Buren, Mr Benton, or any other friend of the administration high in authority, or in the confidence of the democracy."

The following bill was introduced into the Senate of the United States in June last, by Mr Benton, Senator from Missouri.

"A Bill to re-establish the currency of the Constitution for the Federal Government, introduced by Mr Benton, June 1836, into the Senate of the U. States.

"Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That bank notes and paper currency of every description shall cease to be received or offered in payment on account of the United States, or of the Post Office, or in fees in the courts of the U. States, as follows:—Of less denomination than twenty dollars, none after the 31 day of March 1837; of less denomination than one hundred dollars, none after the 31 day of March 1839; of less denomination than five hundred dollars, none after the 31 day of March 1840; of less denomination than one thousand dollars, none after the 31 day of March 1841; and none of any denomination from and after the third day of March, 1842."

Mr Blair is requested, if it will not give him too much trouble, to reconcile the provisions in this bill, with his declarations in the foregoing extracts from his paper. We should be very willing to do it for him, if we could see exactly how it can be done. He probably will find no such difficulty.—*Conn. Cour.*

BANKS AND RAILROADS. We see it stated in the journals that the Stonington Railroad Company, Connecticut, has obtained a loan from the Bank of the United States, which insures the completion of their work, thus opening a new and more direct avenue of communication between this city and Boston, whenever the Long Island Railroad shall have been completed.

The fact here stated suggests several questions to our mind: Would it not be proper and advantageous in granting a Bank charter or establishing any system of Banking, to stipulate that a stated proportion of the facilities thereby created shall be used to favor the construction of works of internal improvement? Might it not be well, in creating a Bank with a capital of over five millions, to restrict its loans to sums of \$100,000 or more, with the same view? Would not such a provision neutralize the objection to the discount power of a National Bank?—*N. Yorker.*

"PRE-EMPTION FLOATS." We notice a circular from the Commissioner of the Land Office at Washington, now going the rounds of the Western papers, which indicates the continued existence of that most atrocious temptation to perjury and fraud on the National Revenue entitled the Pre-emption Float. Perhaps some of our readers may not recollect what it is, so we will give an idea of it: The laws of the U. States first stipulate that the Public Lands shall be carefully surveyed before they are brought into market—that the sale of any township, range, county, or district, shall be opened by public auction, continued for some days, until every tract shall have been offered, and all that will bring more than the minimum price of \$1.25 an acre disposed of. After that, it is liable to private entry at \$1.25 per acre. This is right, politic, and does justice to all parties. But next come pre-emptions, which entitle an individual to any tract on which he may have settled or "squatted" without leave or license at \$1.25 an acre, although it may be honestly and truly worth in its original state a hundred times that sum. The law makes some restrictions to this right of pre-emption, but the squatters are stronger than the law, and defy it. Whoever dares to bid at a public sale on a tract which a squatter has pitched upon, does it at the hazard of his life. (The law, we believe, recognizes no pre-emption till after the land has been offered at auction, but the distinction has been set aside by the code Lynch.) And now comes the aggravated atrocity of Pre-emption Floats. Pre-emptions are founded on a just principle, or rather profession: they look ostensibly to the protection of the poor settler from the cupidity of the rich speculator. To be sure, one man ought to have as good a right to buy a tract of public land as another; and the fact that one of them has trespassed upon it constitutes no proper claim to the fee simple at half price. But it takes Floats to exhibit the beauty of the thing, as follows: Two men

have wandered away from the civilized world, and settled or somehow "improved" lands so near each other that when surveys are made, their improvements are both included in one quarter section.—What can be done for the unfortunate? Why, one of them takes the tract, and the other has a "float" from the nearest land office, authorizing him to pitch upon any other tract unappropriated that he may choose to fancy! Of course, the non-pecuniary of Floats for the speculators has been about the best business going at the West for some years past, particularly to men who swear easy; and though the law on which they are founded has no longer an existence, the Float trade goes on as merrily as ever!—*N. Yorker.*

From the National Gazette.

On the claim of Messrs Stockton & Stokes against the United States, the Postmaster General has, as we are informed, circulated far and wide, through the Post Office, under his franking privilege, an elaborate *ex parte* statement, omitting the documents on the part of the claimants and the opinions of the Court; and this under the title of "The Mandamus Case," comprising "the Postmaster's letter to the court and the opinion of the Attorney General in reference to the power of the Circuit Court of the District to control Executive Officers of the United States in the performance of their official duties; also an exposition of the Postmaster General's reasons for refusing to execute the award of the late Solicitor in favor of Messrs Stockton & Stokes."

This is an extraordinary attempt to prejudice the public mind, presenting a claim of Executive power in a manner unknown even under Gen. Jackson's administration.

From the New York Star.

It is a remarkable circumstance in the political annals of this country, that the very errors, if not despot acts of the administration, ruinous and deplorable as they are admitted to be, are seized upon by the men in power, and made in a measure to operate to their advantage—that is to say, by a perversion of the truth, and a skillful adaptation of popular feelings and opinions, they hope to impute to others, the faults which are alone their own. This is one of the dangerous features of the present rulers of this country, for rather than admit error, or retrace their steps, or surrender their power, they draw and defend themselves to the last, like the smugglers of Europe, who would rather die than allow their contraband articles to be taken possession of by the revenue officers.

Take one case for an example: we mean the Banks. The stoppage of specie payments, the unavoidable consequences of the Government derangement of the currency, has made the banks unpopular, and has swelled the number of those who never were friendly either to banks or to the credit system. Foremost in the pack that opens against the banks, denounces them in no measured strain, and rings the changes of hard money currency, is the worthy President of the U. States, and his friend and counsellor the editor of the Globe and in the course of their denunciations and prescriptions, the vast accumulation of state banks is bitterly complained of—the stoppage of specie payments is deemed and pronounced a great fraud, and the honest payment of the debt due by our merchants in Europe, is considered a subversion to a foreign power. By this attitude the administration hopes to draw off public attention from the sole cause, the source and origin of all the evils we now suffer—to draw off attention from themselves. The cry is up—the clamor loud—the sufferings deep and severe, and the loudest in the cry is the administration itself—like the common practice of the thief, when pursued, who cries "stop thief!" the loudest. Are we wrong? Not in a solitary point.

The administration party, with the hope of catching a few straggling Loco Foco votes, drained the banks of silver, by compelling them to pay in specie their notes of one, two and three dollars, which specie was advantageously withdrawn and hoarded by the enemies of the credit system. This was the commencement of the evil.

The administration withdrew the people's money, amounting to more than twenty millions, and deposited the same in the banks, on the ground that state banks were just as safe as a National Institution: the Pet banks have stopped payment, and the government itself is compelled to issue, without authority, Treasury Drafts, to meet the current expenses.

Is not this true?

The bank of the United States had so regulated the Exchanges of the country, that a merchant could place his money in any direction, or receive his money from any state, at a small premium: the administration destroyed the bank, and a merchant who has money lying in the West, cannot now obtain it without incurring a loss of twenty per cent.

Is not this true?

To carry out the doctrines of the administration that state banks were preferable to a National bank, the states attached to the administration incorporated banks with a capital of twenty or thirty millions three hundred and sixty five thousand dollars, in addition to those already in existence; the administration advocated and legalized this immense addition to the paper issues of the country, and the great anti-bank patriot now at the head of the government encouraged states under his political control to augment their bank capital, in order to transact all the business which the United States bank usually had transacted.

Is not this true?

With the view of transacting a hard money currency but in reality to encourage private speculations in the public lands, the specie circular was illegally issued, which made a second drain on the banks, carried the specie West, where a great part was lost in Pets that could not pay, and when Congress almost unanimously ordered that Circular to be repealed, the Usurper coolly pocketed the law and ran off with it to Tennessee, and his successor being pledged to his patron not to repeal the specie circular, refused in the face of an express will of Congress, to repeal it.

Is not this true?

In consequence of the acts of the administration in relation to the notes of one, two and three dollars, in their withdrawal of the deposits—in their destruction of the United States Bank—in their substitution of an immense number of state banks—in their specie circular—in their derangement of the currency—in the destruction of the Exchanges of the country—in their land speculations—in their temptation to merchants to overtrade, by additional facilities from state banks, national and individual bankruptcy, have ensued—commerce is nearly ruined—foreign and local credit seriously injured—the staple of the country reduced almost to nothing in value—mechanics are without employment, business is at a stand, and all the banks in the country have suspended specie payment, and yet with all these facts undoubted, undisputed, staring them in the face, this administration has the impudence to go to the polls and say to the freemen of this country, Give us your votes, we are innocent of all this trouble—it is the panic manufactured by our enemies, the Whigs. Give us your votes, fellow citizens. We are, indeed, honest men, but greatly slandered.

After all this there is in this a touch of human nature.

The culprit arraigned for felony pleads not guilty, and throws himself upon God and his country for trial. He knows that the evidence against him is full and complete, but like Mr Van Buren in his present position, he relies upon the doctrine of chances, and hopes to be acquitted by the Jury—depends upon a flaw in the indictment—prays that they may not agree upon their verdict, and thus let him loose again to prey once more upon society.

From the Detroit Advertiser.

USAGES OF PARTY. This is the greatest Humbug, next to Benton's that ever existed. It is the rallying cry of demagogues—the war blast of office holders—the Alpha and Omega, the first and final trump of tories. If a man wants to rise from obscurity into notice, he turns to the tory dictionary and the word "usages," defined "usages of the party." If he seeks office, he learns its duties under the head of "usages of the party." If when he inclines to finger the public monies for private speculations, he gathers the sum and substance of his justifications from some fragment of the "usages of the party." If he wishes to organize a central, controlling, dictatorial junta, the process is marked out by the "usages of the party." If it becomes necessary to distribute his word "post office" is found among the "usages of the party" to mean "every thing for the use of tories." These same "usages of the party" are the most wonderful code of axioms in the known world. They embody, according to the fatidical, the entire spirit of the Moslem and Christian dispensations—the laws of the Medes and Persians—the Mythology of the ancients—Justinian's Institutes—the common law of England—the Code Napoleon—the Constitution of the United States—the Constitution of each and every state in the Union—the ethics of the Spanish Partridge—the Adventures of Robinson Crusoe, Gulliver's Travels, Sinbad the Sailor, and Mother Goose's Melodious Search where you will, from Noah's Library to the files of the Free Press, from the first Book of Moses to the State printer's life of Andrew Jackson, from the laws of the Dingo and the Twelve Tables of Rome to the voluminous absurdities of "The Scoring Eagle" and his "Ostrich," and you will discover in all, it is said, the self same spirit that pervades these "usages of the party." Like Swain's Panacea, they are adapted to all stomachs; like Rowland's Tonic, they suit all climates; and, like Potter's enchanted cards, if commanded by as skillful a juggler, a simple "presto! charge!!" will call up any face you please. Like the fabled Proteus, they assume all shapes to meet all emergencies.

From the Albany Evening Journal.

A LETTER FROM GEN. JACKSON.

The Globe publishes an extract from a letter written by Gen. Jackson to that precious patriot, F. P. Blair, who is the confidential and official friend of Jackson and Van Buren. If men are to be known by the company they keep, there can be but little difficulty in fixing an estimate of the character of those who take such a wretch as Blair to their bosoms. But let this pass.

The following is an extract from Gen. Jackson's letter to Blair:—

"The history of the world never has recorded such base treachery and perfidy as has been committed by the deposit banks against the Government, and purely with the view of gratifying Biddle and the Barings, and by the suspension of specie payments, degrade, embarrass, and ruin, if they could, their own country, for the selfish views of making large profits by throwing out millions of depreciated paper upon the people—selling their specie at large premiums, and buying up their own paper at discounts of from 25 to 50 per cent, and now looking forward to be indulged in these speculations for years to come, before they resume specie payments."

And who selected these treacherous and perfidious Deposit Banks? Amos Kendall, under the direction of Jackson, and without the authority or knowledge of Congress! Yes, Jackson "TOOK THE RESPONSIBILITY" of removing the deposits from a safe, solvent, specie-paying bank, (where they had been placed by Congress,) to the banks which he now denounces as treacherous and perfidious! The measure, disastrous, disgraceful and ruinous as it is, was his own! He was told how it would end. He was warned of the consequences. He was admonished of the ruin and distress which would bring upon the country. His own Cabinet earnestly remonstrated against the measure which has resulted in universal bankruptcy and national disaster.

Gen. Jackson stands pledged to the People for

the ability and fidelity of the state banks. In his message to Congress, after the removal of the deposits, he gave assurances that his Experiment was working well. In his Message of 1834, he said:—

"The state banks are found fully adequate to the performance of all services which were required by the bank of the United States, quite as promptly, and with the same cheapness."

In his message of 1835, Gen. Jackson farther says:—

"All the wants of the community, in relation to Exchange and currency, are supplied, as well as they ever have been before. We shall soon gain in the place of the bank of the United States, a PRACTICAL REFORM IN THE WHOLE PAPER SYSTEM OF THE COUNTRY.—The attainment of such a result will lighten the great tax which our PAPER SYSTEM has so long collected from the earnings of labor."

Such were the golden promises held out to Congress and the People, by Gen. Jackson, in 1834 and 1835! Then, as we were to have, as the fruits of his Pet Bank System, a "practical reform in the whole paper system of the country." The Jackson Experiment was to supply "all the wants of the community, in relation to exchange and currency, as well as they have ever been before."

And how have these promises been kept? How have these Jackson pledges been redeemed? How has the "Experiment" worked? What is the nature of the "practical reform in the whole paper system?" Let the great Experimentalist himself answer these questions. Hear the voice of one crying from the Hermitage:—

"THE HISTORY OF THE WORLD HAS NEVER RECORDED SUCH BASE TREACHERY AND PERFDY AS HAVE BEEN COMMITTED BY THE DEPOSIT BANKS AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT."

This denunciation, pointed at the administration, instead of the banks, would be full of truth and justice. For never has history recorded such base treachery and perfidy as have been committed by the administration of Jackson and Van Buren against the people of the U. States.

But old Jackson after the fatal explosion of his Pet Bank scheme, is for trying another experiment! The country has not suffered enough. We are not sufficiently chastened. The Hermitage financier, in his letter to Blair, says:—

"Now is the time to separate the Government from all banks—receive and disburse the revenue in nothing but gold and silver coin, and the banks will regulate their currency, all their operations will regulate their currency, all their operations will regulate their currency."

All we have to say, in reply to this, is, that if the People have a stomach for more "Humbug," let them take it. They were well once—wanted to be better—tried "Experiment"—and here they are!

It will be seen that Jackson charges the deposit banks with suspending to gratify Biddle and the Barings. What painful mischiefs! Such bold calumny all but shames Blair! We leave this part of the "execrated Chief's Letter" to our neighbors of the Argus. They are Bank Directors, and know better than we can, whether the Banks suspended specie payment for the fraudulent purpose of "buying up their own notes at 25 and 50 per cent discount."

BURKE. A great many of the best things said by the celebrated Burke were uttered in the course of those debates, when the foolish of the time emptied the benches at his rising. His being an Irishman, his being of the middle order, and his being totally above the calibre of the fashionable triflers who would listen to nothing but an epigram, could understand nothing but a double entendre, often left him nearly alone with the few necessary attendants of Ministers on the Treasury bench.—On one of these nights he was converted, in strong terms, on some acts of the Cabinet. George Onslow, who probably thought he had now some chance of distinction by grappling with Burke, and showing, if not his wisdom, at least his zeal, started up and said, laughingly, that he must call the honorable member to a sense of his duty, and that no man should be suffered in his presence, to insult the Sovereign. Burke listened, and when Onslow had unburdened himself of his loyalty, gravely addressed the speaker. "Sir, the honorable member has exhibited much ardor but little discrimination. He should know that, however I may reverence the King, I am not at all bound, nor at all inclined to extend that reverence to his Ministers. I may honor his majesty, but Sir, I can see no possible reason for honoring" and he glanced round the Treasury bench, "his majesty's man servant and maid-servant, his wax and his ass!"

DAVENPORT'S ELECTRIC MACHINE. Great improvements have been made in this most important invention since our last notice. A machine is now in operation which is moved by four small galvanic batteries of the size of a quart measure, and which we learn will raise five hundred pounds one foot per minute. A wheel is turned by it with great force and velocity, affording sufficient power for a lathe, a good number of cotton spindles, or any light machinery. A griet-mill might be moved by it with very little addition of power. The great problem of the extent of power obtainable would seem to be nearly set at rest. But one most important fact, or rather principle, remains to be considered. It is ascertained that a galvanic battery will supply electricity to many bodies as readily and fully as to one, (as one hundred persons who join hands to receive a shock are such as sensibly affected as one alone would have been.) A single battery, then, of suitable dimensions may be relied on to generate the power required by any extent and variety of machinery.—*N. Yorker.*

Foreign papers speak of a new kind of wheat called *Apout Wheat*, which promises to be of great use on cold and backward soils, as experiments made, show that if the seed is sown in the middle of May the crop comes to maturity in the middle of August.